

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-13 ACDA-12 TRSE-00 CIAE-00  
DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05  
PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11 OMB-01 EB-08 COME-00  
HA-05 /105 W

-----093367 121924Z /46

R 120549Z APR 78  
FM AMEMBASSY BERLIN  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7114  
INFO AMEMBASSY WARSAW  
AMEMBASSY BELGRADE  
AMEMBASSY BONN  
AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST  
AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW  
AMEMBASSY PARIS  
AMEMBASSY PRAGUE  
AMEMBASSY SOFIA  
USMISSION USBERLIN  
USMISSION USNATO

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E.O.11652: N/A  
TAGS: PGOV, GE  
SUBJECT: NEUES DEUTSCHLAND EDITORIALIZES ON THE  
FOUR POWER AGREEMENT

1. NEUES DEUTSCHLAND OF APRIL 11 CONTAINS  
A LENGTHY EDITORIAL ENTITLED "DISRUPTION MANEUVERS  
AGAINST THE FOUR POWER AGREEMENT OVER WEST BERLIN  
(SIC)." THIS EDITORIAL LAUDS THE FOUR POWER AGREEMENT  
AS A "CONSTRUCTIVE ELEMENT FOR PEACE AND DETENTE" AND  
AS HAVING CONTRIBUTED GREATLY TO THE IMPROVEMENT OF  
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RELATIONS BETWEEN THE GDR AND WEST BERLIN.  
THE EDITORIAL STRESSES THE IMPORTANCE OF THE AGREEMENT  
TO WEST BERLIN AND THE MANY PRACTICAL BENEFITS  
ACCRUING TO THE CITY THEREFROM, SUCH AS EASED TRANSIT  
AND TRADE, IMPROVED CULTURAL CONTACTS AND THE ACCORD  
ON THE SPANDAU LOCK. IT THEN GOES ON TO CITE AT  
LENGTH A VARIETY OF ACTIONS WHICH, IN THE GDR'S VIEW,

ARE INCONSISTENT WITH THE AGREEMENT AND WHICH IN PARTICULAR ATTEMPTS TO MAKE WEST BERLIN AN INTEGRAL PART OF THE FRG. THESE INCLUDE ACTIVITIES OF VARIOUS FEDERAL MINISTRIES IN THE CITY, MEETINGS OF BUNDESTAG COMMITTEES, AND STATEMENTS BY WEST GERMAN POLITICIANS DESIGNED TO EXTEND FRG COMPETENCE TO AFFAIRS OF A STRICTLY WEST BERLIN CHARACTER. THE EDITORIAL STATES THAT EVEN WHEN A FILM FESTIVAL IS HELD IN WEST BERLIN OR A DEPARTMENT STORE IS REOPENED, ATTEMPTS ARE MADE TO EXTEND FEDERAL COMPETENCE TO THE CITY IN CONTRAVENTION OF THE AGREEMENT. THE EDITORIAL CITES THE QUESTION OF THE RELATIONSHIP OF WEST BERLIN TO THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AS YET ANOTHER EXAMPLE OF ATTEMPTS IN THIS LINE. THE EDITORIAL GOES ON TO STATE THAT ALL SUCH ACTIVITIES ARE NOT ONLY INCONSISTENT WITH THE AGREEMENT BUT THEY ARE ALSO HARMFUL TO POSITIVE DEVELOPMENT OF THE SITUATION OF WEST BERLIN.

2. COMMENT: WHILE THIS EDITORIAL IS ENTIRELY CONSISTENT WITH EXISTING GDR POSITIONS ON THE FOUR POWER AGREEMENT AND WEST BERLIN, ITS APPEARANCE AT THIS TIME IS YET ANOTHER REMINDER THAT THE GDR TAKES ITS POSITION ON THESE QUESTIONS SERIOUSLY AND IS WILLING TO SOME EXTENT TO PREDICATE FUTURE RELATIONS BETWEEN THE GDR AND WEST LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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BERLIN ON WHAT IT REGARDS AS WESTERN COMPLIANCE WITH THE AGREEMENT (AS INTERPRETED IN EAST BERLIN). HOWEVER, THE TONE OF THE EDITORIAL IS NOT VIOLENT OR HIGHLY POLEMICAL AND IS IN FACT TEMPERATE AND CONSIDERABLY MORE BUSINESS-LIKE THAN MOST PUBLIC STATEMENTS ON THIS SUBJECT. ITS TIMING MAY BE RELATED TO THE PUBLICITY IN WEST BERLIN ON THE CASE OF NICO HUEBNER AND THE OFFICIAL GDR REACTION THERETO (REPORTED SEPTTEL). END COMMENT. BOLEN

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** AGREEMENTS, PRESS COMMENTS, STATUS OF BERLIN, BERLIN QUADRIpartite MATTERS  
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**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
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**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
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20 Mar 2014  
**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014